IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Erning Xia et al. : Confirmation No.: 2368

Serial No.: 10/724,680 : Examiner: Carlic K. Huynh

Filed: December 1, 2003 : Art Unit: 1617

Title: USE OF A CATIONIC

: Attorney Docket No.: P03295 POLYSACCHARIDE TO ENHANCE

BIOCIDAL EFFICACIES

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following claim amendments be entered and considered prior to any substantive examination.

The Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which listing begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.